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serve the public peace, and to protect the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, whom his majesty has entrusted to our care.

Signed by the different Magistrates of the County of Down.

The Earl of Londonderry having left the Chair, and the Marquis of Downshire having been requested to take the same,

Resolved—That our thanks be returned to the Earl of Londonderry for his readiness in convening this meeting, and for his very proper conduct in the chair.

DOWNSHIRE.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

LETTER FROM LORD STANHOPE, TO MAJOR CARTWRIGHT.

*Chesham House, near Seven Oaks, Kent,
July 25, 1810.*

DEAR CARTWRIGHT,

"I never was a friend to that foolish thing, which has lately been technically called '*moderate Reform*.' I was once a friend to *gradual Reform*, in order, first, to obtain that which was right *per se*; and in order, secondly, to lead to a sufficient Reform, with a fair prospect of success; and my opinion still is, that my opinion *was* right, at the time I held it. For, in the year 1783, I carried one measure through the House of Commons, and had for it, even a majority of the Lords present, in the House of Lords, where it was lost only by the *proxies*, and that, only by a majority of *two*. That was an excellent Bill '*for preventing bribery and expense in election of Members to serve in Parliament*.' A second measure, namely, a Bill '*for the better securing the rights of persons qualified to vote at county Elections*,' I carried through *both Houses*, in 1771, before the enemies of Reform felt its utility. But, upon their perceiving its full extent, that Act of Parliament was *suspended*, and thereby rendered ineffectual, previous to the first general election, and before that plan of partial Reform had been tried even in a single instance. A third measure passed the House of Commons, as suggested by me to the Member who proposed it in that House; but (what is quite unusual, and I believe then unprecedented) it was rejected in the House of Lords, on the *first* reading, in a thin House, by a few persons, who appeared quite afraid even of taking the sense of a *fuller* House upon the object of that Bill. When I was last in town,

I informed some of the modern '*moderate reformers*,' that I was against this weak attempt at '*moderate Reform*,' as they are latterly pleased to term it; and that I conceived that *very gradual Reform* would be far too slow for the critical situation of affairs. I do not know, whether they were, or were not, all of them over well pleased with my frankness and sincerity. Let any man of common sense but look at the state of things at present. No sufficient *nautical* measures taken against invasion. No sufficient *constitutionally military* measures to meet. Nothing done to prevent famine, in the case of a short harvest; my plan for public granaries, and for encouragement to the farmers, &c. having been rejected. Nothing done upon that very important subject of providing means of *making payments*, either public or private, in the case of alarm, when *money* will be buried and *paper* refused. Nothing done to give satisfaction to the friends of liberty, political, civil, or religious. Nothing done of importance about *Ireland*, except the burdening of that country with fresh taxes. New constitutional jealousies started, when the reverse is indispensable; and that, not merely by Ministerialists, but also by persons in opposition. What a state of things!—Good Heavens! I went up to town to attend and to oppose Lord Grey's motion about *privileges*, by moving an amendment to it.

I did so, to prove that I was the *same* man of principle I ever was, but without the smallest hope of doing any good.—In fact, I did not find scarce half a dozen in the House of my opinion; nor do I know that *one-half* of that handful would support me, on any other subject. The people are yet, as it were, asleep. Nor do I know, that you and your friends will wake them, till events shall; events that the very stones of the streets will feel. May God grant, that it may then not be too late to save the country, and the freedom of its ancient constitution. I can make ships, printing presses, stereotype plates, and telescopes; but I cannot make men who will see and feel as I do. I have laboured hard in the vineyard for six-and-thirty years, but to no effect. Past experience will regulate my future conduct. I do not think that I shall attend any county or other meetings, till I conceive that I see *day light* of some kind, and which I freely and

frankly confess that I do *not* at present. I am, dear Sir, with great regard, ever truly and sincerely, yours,
 "STANHOPE."

LINEN TRADE.

The following letter of Mr. Corry, Secretary to the Linen Board, is in answer to an application from the Trade, on a very important regulation, the publication of the names of delinquents against the Linen-laws. By a monthly publication of this nature, in the different brown-linen markets, the names of all offenders against the Linen-laws will be made known, as well as the offences committed, and fines levied.

Linen Board, Nov. 8, 1811.

SIR,

I am commanded by the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures, to acquaint you, that having taken into consideration the memorial transmitted to them by you, from sundry Magistrates and Linen-drappers of the towns and neighbourhood of Belfast and Lisburn, praying them to order a monthly report of fines levied by County Inspectors to be published, they have agreed to the same.

In obedience to their orders, means shall be promptly taken to carry this regulation into effect.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES CORRY.

Robert Williamson, Esq. Lambeg-house.

ORANGE MANIFESTO.

The following Manifesto was copied from a paper posted on the Church-gate of Lisburn. It probably proceeds from some of their authorities, and is curious, as developing the views of that society, to whom it is addressed.

"Orangemen,

"Many are the malicious plots your enemies have devised against you; many are the ridiculous publications they have set forth for your destruction: even in the Belfast Magazine for June and July, 1810.* Yet to your faces they will speak fair. Take care, for they would deceive the very elect, if possible. So always be on your guard, and believe not what they say respecting government. Because, Orangemen, you stepped forth like men, regardless of danger, to defend your King and glorious† constitution, and as long as you keep your former character, government will support you in all your undertakings. God save our‡ King.

"Orangemen, beware! because a deadly blow is intended||."

* The writer might also have added the Belfast Magazine for July, 1811, in which, in stronger terms, the Orange system is again reprobated.

† Are corruption and speculation integral parts of our constitution, or are they not excrescences which deform a fabric originally good, or at least improvable. They who reap emoluments from these causes, may well be clamorous in their support. But the people suffer.

‡ Here we have the exclusive display of loyalty, the bane of the country, when a party, a faction, arrogate to themselves a claim for superior loyalty. There is something insidious in the expressions, "our King."

|| These dark insinuations are calculated to arouse to animosities through the medium of working on the fears of the credulous, who suffer themselves to be duped

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From October 20, to November 20.

THE weather has been generally wet and stormy since last report, until about the 12th of this month, when a favourable change took place, which afforded an opportunity to the farmer to raise his late crops of potatoes: these have turned out a much better crop than there was any reason to expect, from the unusual lateness of planting. The openness of the weather, and the absence of frost, have contributed much to their attaining maturity. The crop of this nutritious and necessary root is however, on an average a deficient one, and as it is now pretty fully ascertained, that the oat crops throughout the country are much below the usual produce, there is a prospect of provisions being much higher than they have been for several years past.

The high price of wheat will probably induce the farmer to sow a greater quantity of

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